

Attorney Docket No.: DEX-0075
Inventors: Macina and Sun
Serial No.: 09/618,596
Filing Date: July 17, 2000
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fee are provided herewith. Please enter the following remarks and amendments into the record.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A method for diagnosing the presence of colon cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) determining levels of a colon specific gene (CSG) comprising a polynucleotide sequence or its complement capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions with SEQ ID NO: 1, or a polypeptide encoded thereby, in cells, tissues or bodily fluids in a patient ; and

(b) comparing the determined levels of the CSG with levels of the CSG in cells, tissues or bodily fluids measured in a normal human control, wherein a change in determined levels of the CSG in said patient versus levels of the CSG measured in a normal human control is associated with the presence of colon cancer.

2. (amended) A method of diagnosing metastases of colon cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having colon cancer that is not known to have metastasized;

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(b) determining levels of a CSG comprising a polynucleotide sequence or its complement capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions with SEQ ID NO: 1, or a polypeptide encoded thereby, in a sample of cells, tissues or bodily fluid from said patient; and

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(c) comparing the levels of the CSG determined in step (b) with levels of the CSG measured in a sample of cells, tissues or bodily fluid from a normal human control, wherein an increase in levels of the CSG determined in step (b) as compared to levels of the CSG measured in a sample of cells, tissues or bodily fluid from a normal human control is associated with a cancer that has metastasized.

3. (amended) A method of staging colon cancer in a patient having colon cancer comprising:

(a) identifying a patient having colon cancer;

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(b) determining levels of a CSG comprising a polynucleotide sequence or its complement capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions with SEQ ID NO: 1, or a polypeptide encoded thereby, in a sample of cells, tissues or bodily fluid from said patient; and

(c) comparing the levels of the CSG determined in step (b) with levels of the CSG measured in a sample of cells, tissues